

MARYLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HEALTH AND WELLNESS
BILL REVIEW MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 9, 2021
9:00 A.M.

The Maryland State Advisory Council on Health and Wellness held a public meeting to review specific legislation on 2/9/2021, beginning at 9:02 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mary Backley
Summit Bassi, M.D.
Mary Pat Bertacchi, RDN
Jonathan Dayton
Angela Deal
Mychelle Farmer, M.D.
Gary Gerstenblith, M.D.
Roger Harrell
Jessica Kiel, RDN
Linda Kline
Namisa Kramer
Seth Martin, M.D.
Cameron Pollock
Vaple Robinson, Ph.D., RN
Jason Semanoff
Teresa Titus-Howard, Ph.D
Sara Vazer, M.D
Kristin Watson, Pharm.D.
Pamela Williams
Vanina Wolf

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Salliann Alborn
Jennifer Eastman
Lois A. Freeman
Rita Kalyani, M.D.
Julie Maneen
Aruna Nathan, M.D.
Rachel Pigott
Vivienne Rose, M.D.
Kelsie Shannon
Geeta Sharma
Afton Thomas, M.D.
Pamela Xenakis, RDN

MDH STAFF PRESENT

Amanda Klein
Larry McNeely
Kristi Pier

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT

None present.

I. Open Legislative Bill Review Meeting

Jessica Kiel, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:02 A.M., and Kristi Pier conducted a roll call. Ms. Kiel expressed appreciation for those members attending.

II. Discussion of [HB 831– Maryland Food System Resiliency Council](#)

At Ms. Kiel's request, Mary Pat Bertacchi described the bill. Ms. Bertacchi highlighted the breadth of the perspectives represented on the proposed Maryland Food System Resiliency Council and the opportunity to address food insecurity. While noting her support for the legislation, Mychelle Farmer asked whether it assured representation of the state's geographically diverse farmers, including small farmers. Ms. Bertacchi explained that the local food policy councils and the University of Maryland Extension Service were both represented in the bill. Ms. Pier informed the Council the Center for Chronic Disease Control and Prevention is considering pilot initiatives to support farmers to connect directly with consumers and with farmer's markets. Dr. Farmer noted the statewide extent of food insecurity.

III. Public Comment

There were no comments or questions from the public.

IV. SB 831 Position Vote

Dr. Farmer offered a motion to support HB 831. Gary Gerstenblith seconded. Quorum was established at 20 members present; 17 members voted to approve the motion; and 3 members abstained. The motion to submit a letter of support for this bill carried.

V. Closing

Ms. Kiel expressed thanks to Ms. Bertacchi, the Legislative Workgroup, and the Council members for all their efforts. The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 A.M.

COUNCIL VOTES

On the Motion to Support for SB 831.

Members Voting to Approve:

Mary Backley
Summit Bassi, M.D.
Mary Pat Bertacchi, RDN
Jonathan Dayton
Angela Deal
Mychelle Farmer, M.D.
Gary Gerstenblith, M.D.
Roger Harrell
Jessica Kiel, RDN
Linda Kline
Seth Martin, M.D.
Vaple Robinson, Ph.D., RN
Jason Semanoff
Teresa Titus-Howard, Ph.D
Sara Vazer, M.D
Kristin Watson, Pharm.D.
Vanina Wolf

Members Voting to Abstain:

Namisa Kramer
Cameron Pollock
Pamela Williams